

Message Text

SECRET

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O SGOLDSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 310904 TOSEC 340011

EXDIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM CAIRO DTD 27 DEC 1976 QTE

S E C R E T CAIRO 17748

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, US, IS

SUBJ: USG ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL

1. AS REPORTED ELSEWHERE, FAHMY SUMMONED ME ON
CHRISTMAS DAY. ONE OF THE SUBJECTS HE WISHED TO
DISCUSS WAS FY 78 ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR ISRAEL.
HE ALLUDED TO A STATEMENT ALLEGEDLY MADE BY YOU THAT
YOU WERE ASKING PRESIDENT FORD TO GIVE ISRAEL THE
FULL AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC AID IT IS REQUESTING. YOUR
STATMENT, FAHMY CONTENDED, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE
AN ADVERSE EFFECT IN THE ARAB WORLD. WHAT CAN
USG EXPECT TO GAIN BY PROVIDING ESRAEL WITH MORE
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ECONOMIC AID. AS HE UNDERSTOOD IT, ALL KNOWLEDGEABLE USG AGENCIES
AGREE IT IS NOT NEEDED, ISRAEL WILL NOT BE ANY MORE
RESPONSIVE. WE HAVE NOT EVEN BEEN ABLE TO SOLVE THE
AMOCO AFFAIR, FAHMY SCOFFED, WHERE AN AMERICAN
INTEREST IS INVOLVED.

2. USG COMPLAINS ABOUT OPEC ACTIONS ON OIL PRICES. AMERICAN COMPANIES HAVE INVESTED IN EGYPT AND A PART OF THE OIL PRODUCED IN EGYPT WOULD GO TO THE US. YET, DESPITE ISRAELI ADAMANCE ON THE GULF OF SUEZ OIL ISSUE, USG CONTINUES TO GIVE ISRAEL EVERYTHING IT WANTS. INCREASED ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE ARE THE LATEST CASES IN POINT. HE PROFESSED NOT TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND YOUR PURPOSES AND ASKED THAT I REPORT HIS CONCERN TO YOU.

3. I TOLD FAHMY THAT I HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT INTERNAL USG DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC AID FOR ISRAEL. HE COULD BE SURE, HOWEVER, THAT ANY ASSISTANCE THAT WE MIGHT PROVIDE TO ISRAEL IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR DESIRE TO RESUME THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS. IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU WISH CONVEYED TO FAHMY ON THIS MATTER, PLEASE INSTRUCT.

4. COMMENT: I NOTE THE ISRAELI PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT US AID FOR EGYPT IN FY 78 WILL BE \$625 MILLION. WE HAVE HAD THIS FIGURE FROM AID WITH INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO INFORM THE GOE AT THIS TIME, BUT WITH THE ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS WE MAY EXPECT GOE TO LEARN OF THE FIGURE VERY SOON.
EILTS UNQTE ROBINSON

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